



Joint News Release

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Snake River Basin Adjudication District Court



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SRBA COURT TO CONVENE
SPECIAL SESSION OCT. 16 IN LEWISTON

For Immediate Release

Contact

Boise-Twin Falls, Idaho, Oct. 10, 2001

For Media Information

Diana Delaney- (208) 736-3011

Idahoans with claims in the Snake River Basin Adjudication from the Lewiston area will have a unique chance to learn about the SRBA and see first-hand the SRBA Court in action on October 16 when Judge Roger Burdick convenes an official public session of the court in Lewiston, the Court and the Idaho Department of Water Resources announced jointly today.

The SRBA Court session will be held at the Nez Perce County Commissioners' Office, 1225 Idaho Street, in Lewiston. The program starts at 10:00 a.m. when IDWR hosts a special SRBA information session to present information about SRBA claims from the Lewiston and surrounding areas. They will also provide information about the adjudication process and the time line for action on those claims. SRBA Court representatives will also be on hand to answer questions.

In the afternoon, Judge Burdick will convene the SRBA Court at 1:30 for its regular monthly status conference. The status conference is when the Court deals with a variety of legal elements in the SRBA Court proceedings.

"This is an excellent chance for people in the Lewiston area to see the Court in action and to learn first hand more about the process. The decisions that will come out of this adjudication process will have far reaching effects on thousands of water users. I feel it is important that they have the opportunity to see the process first hand," Judge Burdick said.

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The SRBA was launched in 1987 to sort out claims to water in the Snake River Basin, a geographical area encompassing approximately 87 percent of the state.

"It's important for people with SRBA claims in the Lewiston and surrounding areas to learn more about the process and to get a better understanding of just how their claims will be processed. They also get the chance to review the technology involved, to learn about the overall status of the adjudication and to see the timelines we will be following," said Dave Tuthill, SRBA manager for IDWR.

The court session and the IDWR program will be conducted in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in or understand any of the proceedings, please let the Court Clerk, Diana Delaney, know in advance so arrangements can be made. Her telephone number is (208) 736-3011.